No 647 February 3, 2002

THE FUNDAY TIMES

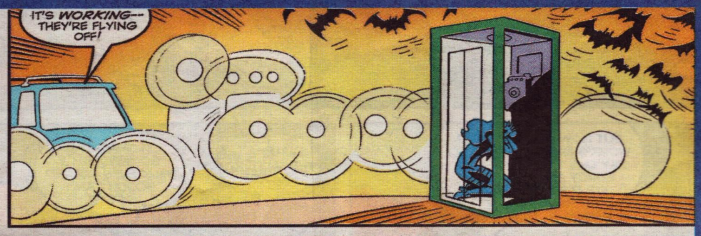
Go monster mad

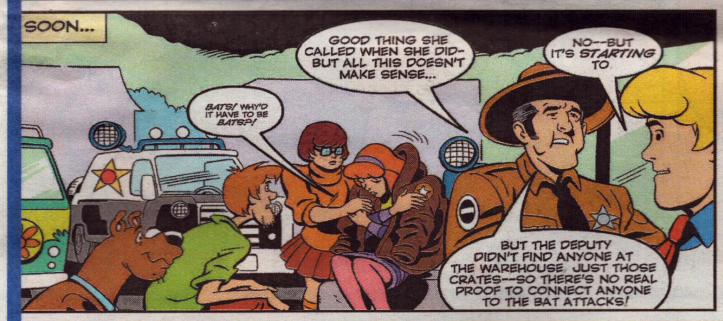
Meet the scary stars of Disney/Pixar's new hit movie – Monsters, Inc.

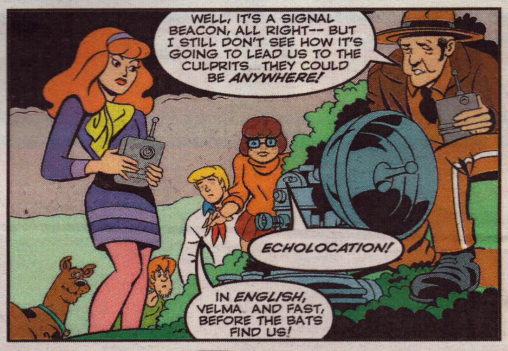
Page 6

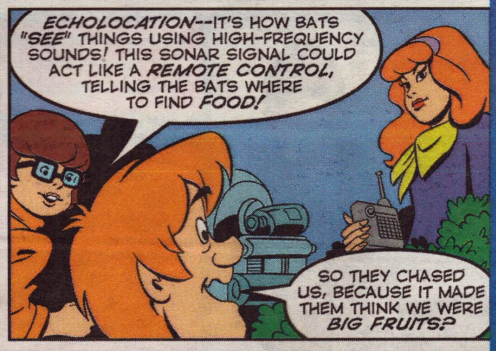
SCOOBY-DOO! in BATS WHAT I'M AFRAID OF

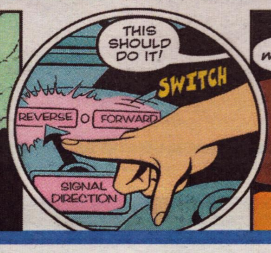
The story so far – Daphne's in serious trouble as her super sleuthing has led to an attack from a colony of vampire bats!

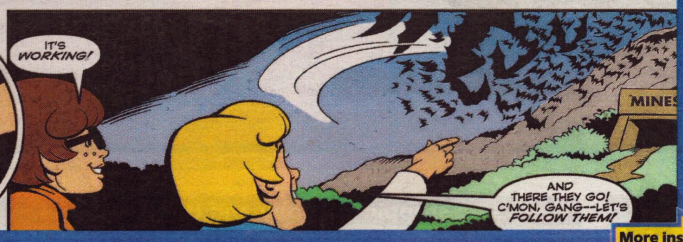




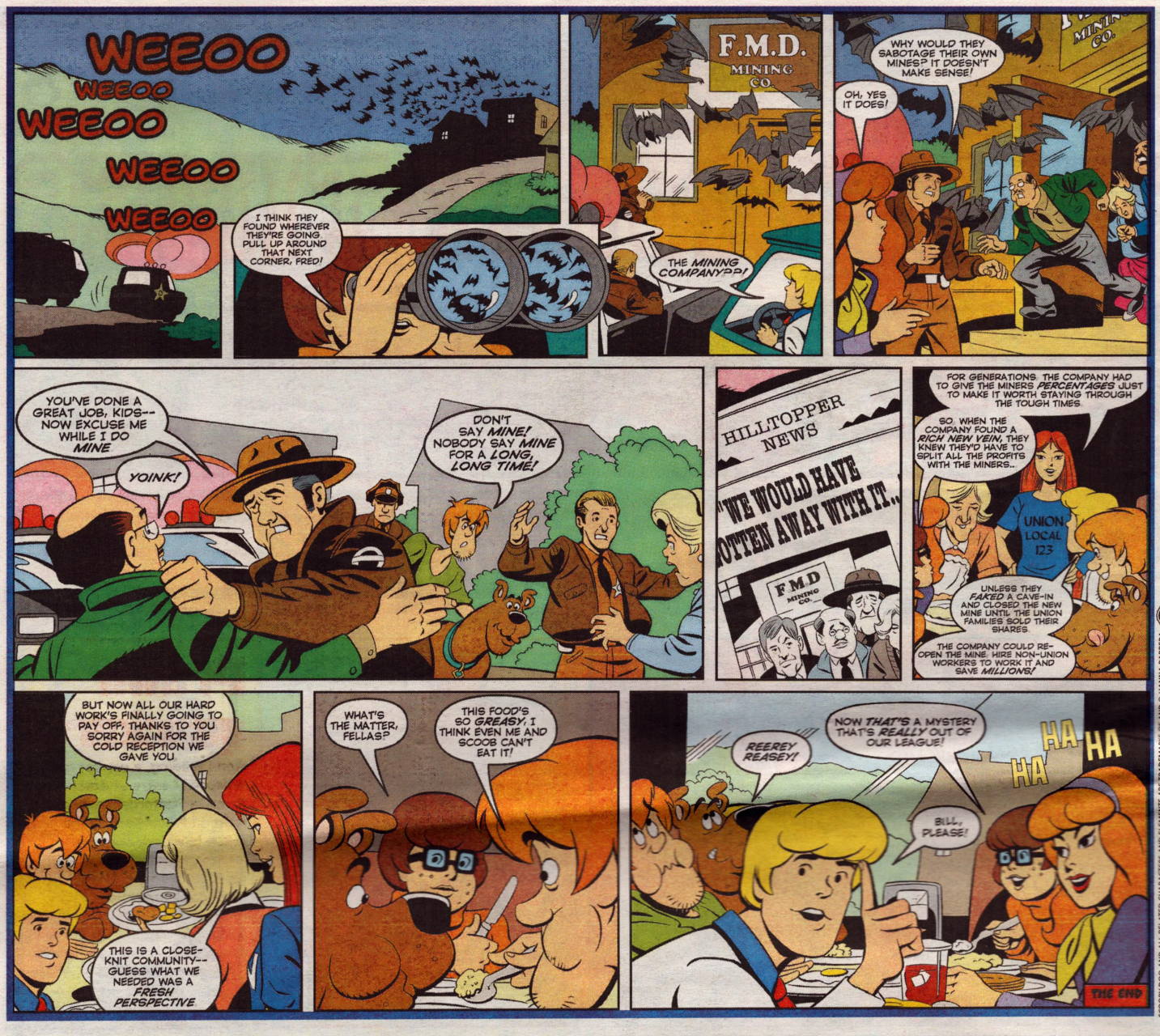








More inside



SCOOBY DOO AND ALL RELATED CHARACTERS AND ELEMENTS ARE TRADEMARKS OF AND © HANNA-BARBERA. (S02)

THE PARTY'S STARTED

Funday spoke to Pink when she was in London last week to promote her new album, M!ssundaztood

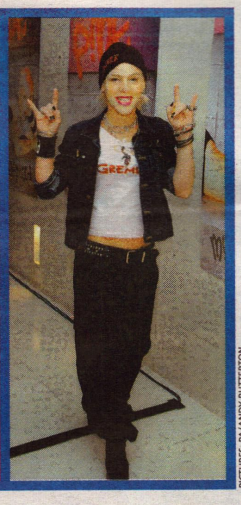
How did you end up with the name Pink?
Pink came from when I was eight, and this boy I had a crush on, pulled my pants down in front of everyone. I started blushing and going pink – it followed me throughout my life. It was pretty mean when they called me it the first time.

How do you think you're misunderstood?
Well, musically. When I came out with Can't Take Me Home [her first album], that's all people saw of me. I was basically an R&B girl with pink hair. But there's a lot more to me than that – I'm a music lover, I don't have any particular category. I don't know anyone who listens to one type of music. Then I wrote There You Go and all of a sudden I'm a man hater. That's not true either!

What has surprised you about being a pop star?
Having to work! I wasn't expecting that when I was a little girl. No, just the politics involved – it is a business, so you have to be cautious.

Do you deserve your reputation for upsetting other celebrities?
I upset them all the time. Everyone else is very good at being diplomatic but I'm not. My dad has been trying to teach me it for 22 years and it doesn't work with me.

Do you like any British artists?
Last time I was over here, I fell in love with the Sugababes. They were the cutest girls. I love Craig David, too. How does he talk that fast? Oh, and Coldplay – they rock out of anybody!



PICTURES: PA/ANDY BUTTERTON

FUNDAY

NEWS

Make a motor

Autocar magazine, Lego and Land Rover have launched the search for the 2002 Young Car Designer of the Year. The competition gives anyone under the age of 16 the chance to create the "off-roader for the 21st-century city". Entrants receive a set of Lego wheels, an engine and specific chassis parts to get them started. If you want to make a dream machine, click on www.autocarmag.com and fill in the entry form online. The competition's closing date is March 31.

Dubble reminder

If you haven't had a Dubble vision yet, get cracking! Funday, Comic Relief and Nickleodeon are on the hunt for talented young people to create story ideas for three TV ads to be screened on Nickleodeon. The 30-second ads will promote the Comic Relief-supported Fair Trade chocolate bar, Dubble. The winning ads will be shot in a studio and must feature pop star Samantha Mumba and the Dubble bar. You can design your ad on your own, or in a group of up to three people. An entry form along with details about the competition can be found at www.nick.co.uk/dubble or www.dubble.co.uk

Up for the cup

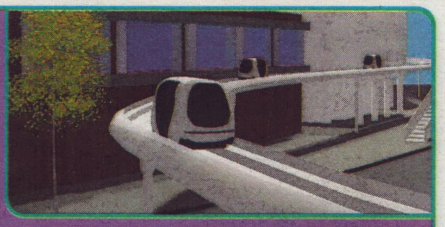
Michael Owen won't be getting his hands on the FA Cup this year but pupils from Edith Neville Primary School, in London, managed to pick up football's top prize recently. The famous trophy visited the school, with FA chief executive Adam Crozier, England star Ashley Cole and ex-England player Marieanne Spacey, to launch the new Up For The Cup teaching resource for primary schools. The pack includes FA Cup-related wallcharts, match reports and timelines to help in subjects like geography, history and art. "We're using the power of football to develop learning," said Adam. What were the famous guests' favourite cup memories as kids? "Mine would obviously be from the Scottish FA Cup," revealed Adam. "The centenary cup when, unfortunately, Rangers beat Celtic 3-2. I'm a Celtic fan." "It would be the 1991 Arsenal-Spurs cup semi-final when Gazza scored that free-kick," added Ashley. For information about Up For The Cup e-mail: Donna.McIvor@TheFA.com

PICTURES: PA/DAVID JONES/ATS LTD. FACPL, TONY BUCKINGHAM

Prawn quackers!

Anne Wilding, a worker at the Wildfowl Centre at Amerston Farm, in Staffordshire, became worried when Rodney the black and white duck appeared to lose his appetite. "He was off his food," explains Anne. "I tried a few titbits but it didn't seem to work." It was then that Anne gave Rodney the remains of her Chinese take-away. "Rodney just took off and gobbled the lot down in seconds," chuckles Anne! "It was the fried rice he really went for." Rodney's favourite meal was approved by the RSPB and so now the one-year-old hand-reared duck regularly tucks into a plate of fried rice with maggots and worms. "He's so odd," adds Anne. "The rice has to be fried – he turns his beak up if it's plain boiled!"

Bubble about



These moving eggs are being introduced to Cardiff Bay in a bid to cut congestion. The ULTra [Urban Light Transport] was developed by Professor Martin Lowson, from Bristol University, who worked on the moon landing space programme. The system began testing last month and if all goes well it will be up and running by 2004. ULTra will transport passengers in driverless computer-controlled cabins. Each passenger will have a "smart card" that can be used to program the vehicle to stop where they want. The futuristic-looking vehicles have a top speed of 40kph and will travel on rubber wheels along a specially built track. Professor Lowson said: "It is incredible, a great pleasure. It is going from dreams into reality – it is very exciting."

MONSTER GIVEAWAY

Enjoy our massive Monsters, Inc. giveaway! Send your separate answers to the competition address on page 11, with your name, age, address, and mark each entry as shown. Enter all five and see how much booty you can snaffle!

DISNEY, MAGIC!

Disney Stores around the UK are now stuffed full of goodies inspired by the blockbuster movie Monsters, Inc. We've got £50 worth of Disney Store vouchers to give away to 10 lucky winners. Use them to buy soft toys of the film's characters, full-size monster costumes, fluffy monster stationery, walkie-talkies, keyrings and lots more.

To enter, tell us Sulley's real name.
Mark your entry DISNEY STORE.

FIGURES OF FUN

With every top movie comes a great range of replica toys. The Interactive Sulley & Boo are fab, interacting with each other and using key phrases from the film. While the Mike 'n' Scare Scooter is also a great animated toy. Thanks to Vivid Imaginations, we have four sets of the two toys up for grabs.

To enter, tell us who provides the voice for Sulley.
Mark your entry BOO.

SCARY STATIONERY

Copywrite Designs is giving 10 winners a complete Monsters, Inc. stationery selection from its fantastic range – including a Sulley backpack, a bright green Mike Mouse and Sulley Mouse Mat set, a furry Sulley notebook, a Poster Art set, an eyeful of Mike filled pencil case, a fur print A4 ring-binder, a computer dangler of either Sulley, Mike or Boo and a groovy green bag, packed in an eyeball-shaped pocket.

To enter, tell us how many eyes Mike has.
Mark your entry BACKPACK.

MONSTER READ

If you're mad about the movie, you'll love DK and Puffin's new Monsters, Inc. books. Keep your eyes peeled for the Monsters, Inc. novelisation; Monsters, Inc. Guide To Monstropolis; Monsters, Inc. Essential Guide; Monsters, Inc. Employee Handbook and Monsters, Inc. Funfax.

We've got 18 sets of all five books to give away.

To enter, tell us Mike's surname.
Mark your entry BOOK MARK.

PRIZE PUZZLE

Games and puzzle maker Jumbo has joined forces with Funday to give 60 lucky winners two 100-piece Monsters, Inc. puzzles each. Both puzzles show Sulley in different scenes from the film. These juicy jigsaws are perfect for keeping little monsters out of trouble – and with two of them to tackle – you'll be busy for hours on end!

To enter, name the city in which Mike and Sulley live.
Mark your entry PUZZLE.

PICTURES ©DISNEY/PIXAR

DAGSY DOG

Woof, woof! Got any pet problems? Then get in touch with me at the address below!

I have a cat called Poppy. She is very fat and when we got her, her stomach was trailing on the floor! She has been on a strict diet since then, but can you give me any advice about what she should eat?
Caitlin Borland, 7, Glasgow

Obesity in cats can lead to diabetes and liver conditions. In practice, we help cats to lose weight by starting them on a specific food which is low in calories and high in fibre so that they feel full but have not eaten too many calories. To start this, you may need to contact your vet. If you choose not to do this then you may try cutting your cat's normal food down by a third and stop all treats. It is a good idea to weigh her weekly and plot this on a chart so you can see the decline.

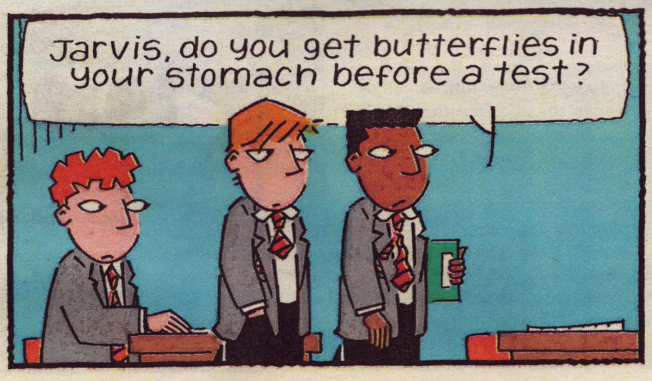
Advice by Blue Cross vet Mark Bossley

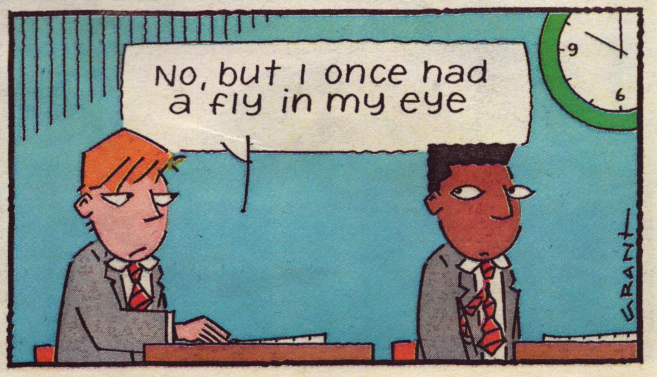
If you have a question for me or you want to send in a cool fact, write to:
The Funday Times, Dagsy Dog, PO Box 495, London E98 1ST
You can now e-mail your pet problems to
dagsy.dog@sunday-times.co.uk

The Blue Cross, one of Britain's oldest animal welfare charities, has four animal hospitals, 11 adoption centres, and two equine centres. Last year, the charity found homes for 8,000 animals and treated more than 60,000 pets at its hospitals.

ILLUSTRATIONS: PAUL CEMMICK

Jarvis





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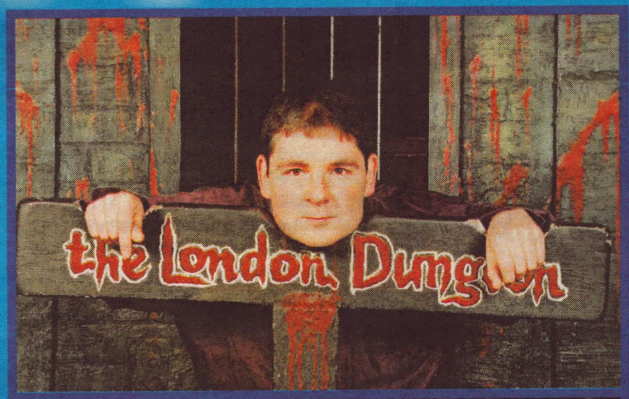
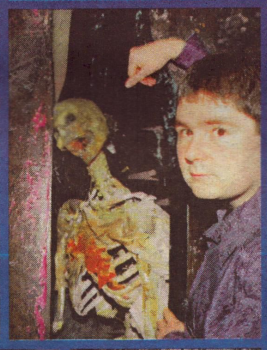
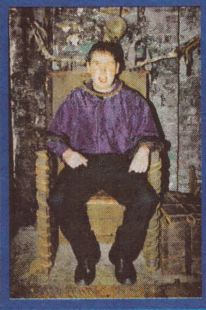
You can't get bigger than our jumbo Monsters, Inc. competition!

ARE YOU SCARED?

Funday dares to chat to horror author Darren Shan ... at the creepy London Dungeon!





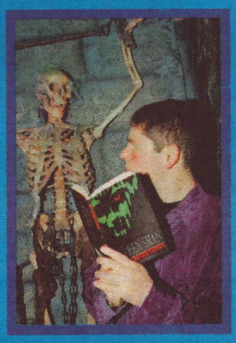


PICTURES: TONY BUCKINGHAM

You have just published the sixth book in the Saga of Darren Shan, The Vampire Prince. Do you know yet how many books there will be altogether?

It will actually be about 20 books. I don't know the exact number. I've recently finished the first draft of book 11 which is the end of the first half of the series.

I have a general idea of how the second half goes. I know where they are going to end up – it's just a case of doing it book by book.



Is it hard to write such a big series?

It's very difficult. There are certain plot twists that I know are going to happen so there are certain things I can structure the series around. But plotting it out book by book is very tricky. You have got to remember everything that has come in the books beforehand and you have to lay seeds for the books that are yet to come. But I take it one book at a time. I think about some of the stories years in advance. Book 10, book 15, book 20 – it's three or four years before I have to write these but I'm playing around with ideas for them.

Why has the cover design changed for The Vampire Prince?

The publisher made the decision to make the books seem darker. I really like them. We will be re-doing the first five this year as well. They just stand out more on the shelves. It's a long series so it's nice to try something else, to see what works and what doesn't, and to capture a new audience.

Do you ever have to tone down your writing?

Occasionally I do go too far but I'm always aware of that. I want to make the books exciting and they are very dark books. But I'm not interested in just shocking readers or grossing them out. The last couple of years I've been to school events and since then I've been thinking about when teachers read this out in class, would it be okay? So I use that as my barometer.

Why have you moved to London from Ireland?

I have lived here for a few months. Basically, I was born in London and I know the area well. There are a few reasons. One is just having a change of scenery. I'm also working on an adult book that is set in London so I want to be here when I'm writing that. It makes it easier for me.

Is it hard writing different books at the same time?

No, I like to juggle things around. I do one or two Darren Shan books a year and I also do at least one adult book. I like to move on to different things and get away from Darren Shan for a few months and then return to it. I write the first draft very, very quickly, in maybe three or four weeks. Then it goes through the editing process about six times and then I leave a gap for a few months, so it spreads out for about two years. When I come back to a book it allows me to be more objective.

What characters will return in Darren Shan?

So many fans ask me when Steve will return. He returns in book eight. Whether he's good or bad, I'm not going to say. By that time, 14-15 years have passed since book one, so Steve is actually an adult. So whether he's grown up to be a vampire or he's grown out of his childish fierceness, we are going to have to see.

You're a big film buff – so which did you prefer, Harry Potter or The Lord of the Rings?

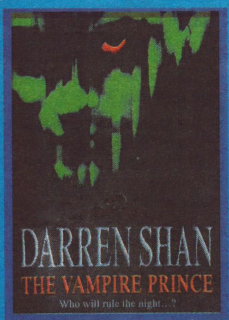
Lord of the Rings – it was a truly excellent movie. I grew up with Lord of the Rings. I've read the Harry Potter books and I love them, but Lord of the Rings is one of my favourite books of all time. I think the film captured it. Even though there were little changes, they were necessary changes. It was excellent.

Any news about a possible Darren Shan film?

They are still working on a script at the moment.

If it is made it will be made in America with an American cast. But you never know with the film industry.

If it doesn't happen I won't get down in the dumps. We will just have to wait and see.



The Vampire Prince by Darren Shan is out now [Collins, £3.99]

MONSTER BUNCH

Monsters, Inc. hits cinema screens across the UK this Friday. Read on to meet the movie's stars and scare yourself into a monster mood!

MONSTERS, INC. LOWDOWN

What's Monsters, Inc. all about? Check out our introduction to the monster world! Monsters, Inc. is the biggest scream-processing factory in Monstropolis, employing a team of Scarers to venture into the human world and gather screams – the main source of energy in the monster world.

The Scarers pass into the human world from one of the company's 120 Scare Floors. Each Scare Floor is equipped with 13 door stations fitted with a scare canister that collects the screams.

Each Scarer is designated a kid to terrify. They open the door, straight into the child's bedroom, and do some serious scaring!

Yet there's an energy crisis at Monsters, Inc. as kids aren't scared as much as they used to be!

Name: Mike Wazowski
Job description: Mike is Sulley's Scare Assistant and together they make a top scare-pair. He does all Sulley's paperwork and checks he's in super-scaring shape.
Monster profile: When Mike's not putting Sulley through his paces, or avoiding Roz because he's behind on his paperwork, he's out dating Celia Mae, the receptionist.
Monster fact: Mike's one eye is huge but he's still short sighted. He has to wear a contact lens the size of a soup bowl!

Name: James P Sullivan [Sulley]
Job description: Sulley tops the scare charts as the company's most successful Scarer. He is approaching the all-time scare record set by Fangs McDonald in 1963.
Monster profile: Sulley is 2.29m tall and weighs 662kg, which helps make him a very scary monster. In reality he's a big softy and even befriends a little girl called Boo.
Monster fact: After a hard day of scaring, Sulley likes to relax with an intense physical scare work out.

Name: Boo
Job description: As a three-year-old girl it's Boo's job to provide screams for Monsters, Inc. The problem is, she's not scared of Sulley and even calls him "Kitty"!
Monster profile: Sulley is terrified when he first meets Boo because all monsters believe that kids are toxic! Her favourite game is hide-and-seek.
Monster fact: Boo's real name is Mary Gibbs. Sulley nicknamed her Boo because it's one of her favourite words.

Name: Randall Boggs
Job description: Randall is Sulley's main rival as the company's top Scarer and will do anything to become the all-time record holder.
Monster profile: He is the meanest monster in Monstropolis. Although behind Sulley in the scaring chart, he is the only monster who can frighten Boo.
Monster fact: Creepy Randall is like a chameleon and can change his skin pattern to blend into any background – even a brick wall.

Name: Celia Mae
Job description: Celia Mae is the gorgeous receptionist at Monsters, Inc. She knows everyone's telephone extension by heart and can answer 10 phone lines at once.
Monster profile: Celia and Mike are very much in love. They have pet names for each other such as "Shmoopsie-Poo" and "Googly Bear".
Monster fact: Celia has snakes for hair and they each have a name. She takes a day off each spring so they can shed their skin.

Name: Henry J Waternoose
Job description: Henry is the boss of the family-run business, Monsters, Inc. He would do anything to make sure his company makes it through the current energy crisis.
Monster profile: He used to be a well-respected Scarer and wrote a book on training Scarers. He's remembered for the "Ol' Waternoose Jump and Growl" scare.
Monster fact: Waternoose was 142 when he took over from his father at Monsters, Inc.

Name: Roz
Job description: Roz is a keen, mean, filing machine. It's her job to ensure Scarers are given the right scaring jobs and that scare reports are correct.
Monster profile: Roz loves her filing and is the grumpiest monster in town. Her pet hate is Mike – because he's always behind with his paperwork.
Monster fact: Believe it or not, but 40 years ago Roz was runner-up in the Miss Monstropolis beauty competition.

MONSTER EXTRAS

Scarers are at the cream of Monster, Inc. employees. Sulley and Randall aren't the only Scarers at Monsters, Inc. The team includes the unlucky George, the eye-boggling Pauley and the hairy Bud.

Scare Assistants come next. Joining Mike in this profession is Randall's bullied assistant, Fungus [left]. Fungus is a super-brain when it comes to technology.

Wranglers [right], Smitty [below] and Needleman, hold the lowest position at Monsters, Inc. They have to push carts of scream canisters around and destroy the doors of kids who aren't scared any more.

The Child Detection Agency [CDA] is a squad of highly trained agents [above] who protect Scarers from being contaminated by toxic children.

Adapted from the DK book Monsters, Inc. Essential Guide [£9.99]

Next week, read our interview with Monsters, Inc. director, Pete Docter

THE FUNDAY TIMES

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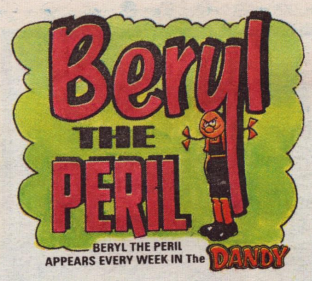

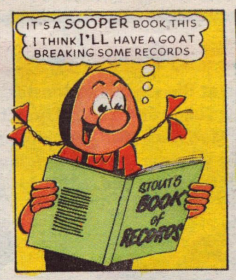

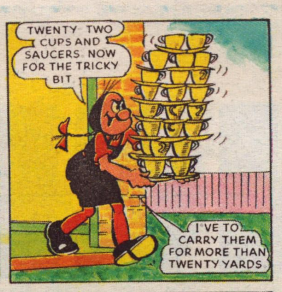

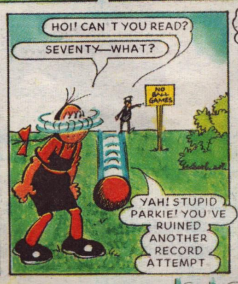

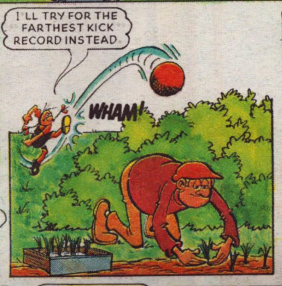

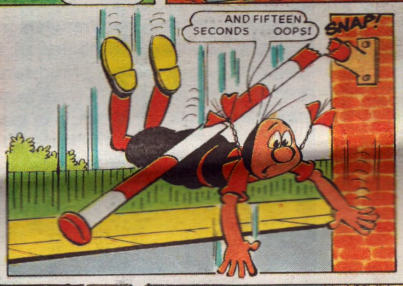

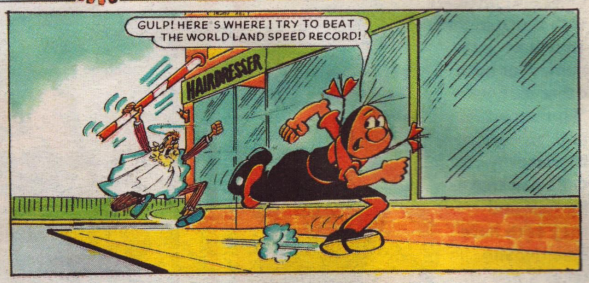

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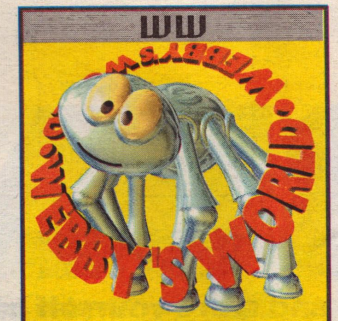
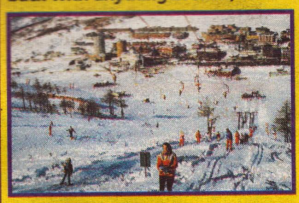


www.rfu.com
This revamped website is easy to get around and leaves no stone unturned when it comes to rugby. The Six Nations kicked off yesterday and so there's no better time to visit the site. Check out the tournament's fixtures, results and top stories. It won't tell you whether England can finally clinch the grand slam – but it will keep you up to date on their progress.

www.skiclub.co.uk
Heading for the slopes on your family holiday this winter? Then check out where you are going and what the snow's like with the Ski Club of Great Britain's website. There are regular updates and live webcams, so you can see the latest conditions for yourself. A fitness and safety section will help make sure you don't come back with anything broken, too!



PICTURE: REUTERS/STEPHEN HIRD; AP/ARMANDO TROVATI

If you are a webhead and have discovered a great site, or have created one of your own, spin me a mail and tell me all about it on webby@sunday-times.co.uk

FRESH!

LITTLE ROLOS ★★★★★
Everything's going mini – and Rolo has jumped on the bandwagon – just in time for Valentine's Day. So, now when you do love someone enough to give them your last Rolo, it needn't be such a big deal! These tiny Rolos taste more of chocolate than toffee compared with their big brothers, but they're still a treat. Beware though, the usual tube has been replaced by a bag which makes sharing out your chocs a little harder to control! Lovely.

SNACK

BLAZING STAR by Lynne Markham ★★★★★
Geoff is left with his gran after his parents abandon him, to live in Africa. Unhappy and alone, Geoff's imagination lets him escape to the American plains where he meets heroic Indian brave, Blazing Star. Through his fantastical adventures, Geoff is finally able to face up to the truth about his parents. Stories of identity and family secrets are common, but Blazing Star manages to weave its own path with this thoughtful and ultimately triumphant tale.

BOOK

HULA HOOPS MINIS TUB ★★★★★
Just how do the clever crisp bods at KP make these Hula Hoops so small? Following the craze for mini chocolate bars, crisps have now gone the way of the dinky snack. That doesn't mean you miss out on the classic Hula Hoops crunch, especially with this tremendous tub [£1.35] – which comes packed to the rim. There are two varieties – Original and Crispy Bacon – and the little loops are very moreish and perfect as a video-watching snack. The new lord of the rings!

SNACK

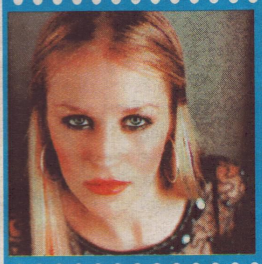
No records for Beryl, she only made it into the bad books!

FUNDAY

BUZZ!

WHAT'S NEW FOR 2002?

Buzz! gives you a sneaky peek at the hot new acts set to storm the charts and record shops this spring



ANNIQ

When? This 19-year-old from Essex releases her first single, Skin Deep, on February 11.
Why? Anniq has been hailed as the only Brit girl capable of rivalling Britney. The track, Skin Deep, was much in demand too – Samantha Mumba, Victoria Beckham, Hear'Say and Anastasia were all after it.
What else? Anniq has something in common with Robbie Williams – they are both huge fans of Frank Sinatra.

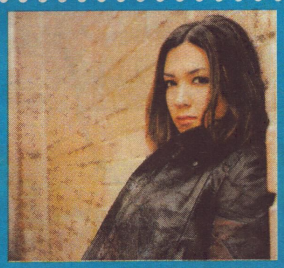
ROSIE RIBBONS

When? Soon. The 18-year-old Pop Idol contestant from Alltwen, South Wales, was taken on by Pete Waterman moments after she was voted off the hit TV show.
Why? Despite hitting a few flat notes on Pop Idol, Rosie is vocally talented. She looks the part and the public love her.
What else? Even though she was going for solo fame, there have been rumours that Rosie will replace Kym in Hear'Say.

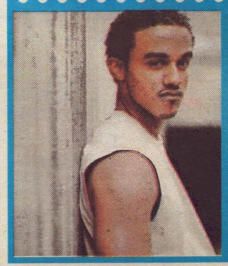
GARETH GATES

When? As soon as he gets voted as Pop Idol.
Why? Gareth, 17, remains the most consistent performer throughout the Pop Idol show.
What else? Gareth's looks are already proving a hit. Every time he goes back home to Bradford, he gets mobbed by young girls!

MICHELLE BRANCH



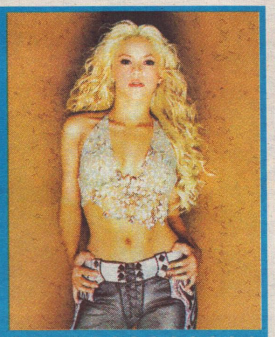
When? Michelle's debut single, Everywhere, is out on March 25.
Why? Everywhere is already a huge hit in Michelle's American homeland. She is signed to Madonna's Maverick label – so the 18-year-old's in with a good chance of a hit here, too!
What else? Michelle's songs come to her in dreams. She wakes up to write them down only to find she already has. Weird!



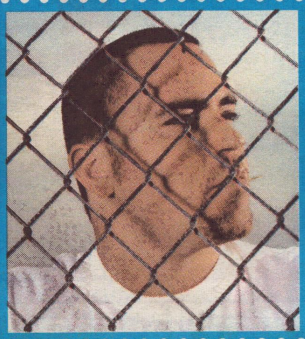
WARREN STACEY

When? London lad Warren releases his debut single, My Girl, My Girl, on February 18. An album is expected in May.
Why? At least one of the Popstars contestants has to make it as a solo artist, and 22-year-old Warren's the man. He has already been snapped up as the only UK support for Destiny's Child's UK tour.
What else? *NSYNC's Justin Timberlake penned a track for Warren's album.

SHAKIRA



When? Her latest single, Whenever Wherever, comes out on February 25. The album, Laundry Service, is out on March 4.
Why? Shakira, from Barranquilla, Columbia, is a writer, a singer, and a dancer and has already sold 8m copies of her previous albums worldwide. At 24, she's already a Grammy award winner and she won Best Latin Pop album in 2001.
What else? Shakira wrote her first song at eight and was kicked out of her school choir because her voice was too strong.



BUBBA SPARXXX

When? Bubba's new single, Lovely, will be on the shelves on February 25.
Why? Hip-hop needs a Bubba! He's 24, he's talented and he's already had a top-10 hit with his debut single, Ugly. Bubba's debut album was hailed as the best rap album of last year
What else? Bubba's real name is Warren Anderson Mathis. He comes from La Grange, in Georgia, America, and grew up in the country – his nearest neighbour lived more than 2km away.

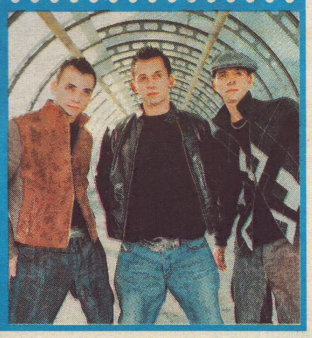
ALIZEE

When? The single, Moi ... Lolita, is out now.
Why? Alizee, 17, from the French island of Corsica, is already big news in France and the buzz is spreading to Europe and America. Moi ... Lolita sold more than a million copies over there and the album, Gourmandises, went platinum in three months, selling 300,000 copies.
What else? Watch out, James! She says she'd love to be a Bond girl.

CHRISTINA MILIAN

When? Christina's already had a top-three smash with debut single, AM to PM!
Why? She looks great, she sings well, she's an accomplished songwriter and Craig David is a fan! Christina, 19, from Maryland, penned J.Lo's number-five hit, Play.
What else? Christina is also an actress. She has appeared in American Pie, Charmed and Clueless and did a voiceover for A Bug's Life. Phew!

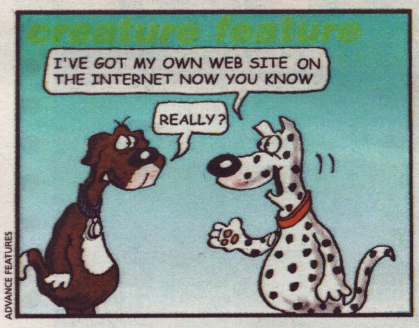
3SL



When? Their debut single, Take It Easy, is in the shops in April.
Why? 3SL have got sibling appeal. The band members – Steve, 22, Andy, 20 and Ant, 18 – are, of course, the brothers of Lisa Scott Lee. They wowed the crowds on the final Steps tour with their impressive performances.
What else? The three brothers are excellent movers, which they put down to the fact that their grandparents were ballroom dancing champions!

PICTURES: CARLTON

Keep reading Buzz! to see who makes the big time!



ADVANCE FEATURES

NEXT WEEK

PICTURE ©BBC

It's new and it lasts all day. Funday previews CBBC – the BBC's digital channel for kids

Funday Sport tackles England's super speedy rugby union star Jason Robinson

Have a heart and show someone you care! Get creative with Funday's special Valentine's Day art masterclass

f-mail

Send your letters, cartoons, jokes and drawings to: The Funday Times, PO Box 5073, Leighton Buzzard LU7 7GX Send your e-mail to: funday.times@sunday-times.co.uk

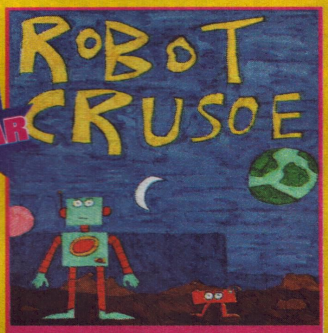
MONSTER GIVEAWAY

Disney/Pixar's latest movie, Monsters, Inc., is out on Friday. The monster movie follows top scary Sulley and his sidekick, Mike, as they scare children in order to collect their screams.

Vivid Imaginations is launching a range of top Monsters, Inc. toys – including the Mike 'n' Scare Scooter, Bounce and Talk Mike and Interactive Sulley & Mike.

The star f-mailer will get an Interactive Sulley & Mike, Giant Floor Puzzle and a 2-in-1 Puzzle, from Ravensburger. The other f-mailers will get a Sulley Room Guard.

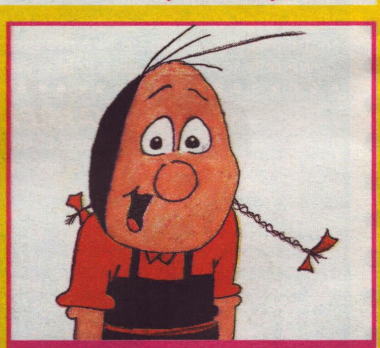
STAR



Rachel Lindsay, 10, Guernsey

Why did the orange stop rolling down the road?
It ran out of juice!
Taavi Bonny, 7, Shepperton

Waiter, waiter, there's a footprint in my soup!
Don't worry, sir, you asked me to step on it!
Sam Greaves, 5, Cockermouth



Richard Kirk, 13, London

Squirt is a cool board dude!

FUNDAY

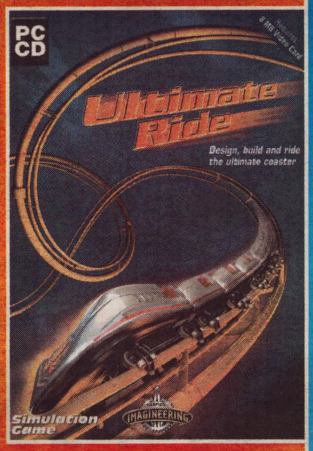
WIN IT!

COMPETITION ADDRESS Send answers to all competitions to us at: The Funday Times, PO Box 5073, Leighton Buzzard LU9 5 1AY. Competition deadline: February 13

You can e-mail your competition answers to: funday.comps@sunday-times.co.uk
Sorry, but only one e-mail per entrant will be accepted.

FEEL THE THRILLS

Imagineering's Ultimate Ride is a new PC title allowing thrill-seekers to build their own rollercoasters! Gamers then get to experience the ride from a front-row seat with this real-time 3-D game.
Players can choose from three different types of track and more than 100 props to build the ride of their dreams. There are also different settings and themes making every ride unique.
Imagineering is offering one winner and their family [two adults, two children] a three-night B&B family room stay at the Disneyland Resort Paris. The prize includes four-day entry to the Disneyland Park and the new Walt Disney Studios as well as return travel on Eurostar.
Plus, the winner and 10 runners-up will each get a copy of the game.



To enter, tell us the name of the top rollercoaster at the new Walt Disney Studios in Paris

Mark your entry ROLL UP and send it with your name, age and address, to the competition address above.

Disneyland Resort Paris
eurostar

PRIVATE EYE

Towering 135m above the sights of London, British Airways London Eye is the world's tallest observation wheel. Since opening in March 2000, BA London Eye has welcomed more than 7m visitors, making it one of the UK's most popular paid-for visitor attractions.
Each of its 32 capsules takes guests on a gradual 30-minute flight that gives amazing panoramic views of up to 40km across London and the south east of England. Visitors can either fly the Eye in daylight or rise above the lights of the capital on a magical night flight.
Visit www.ba-londoneye.com for more information.
BA London Eye is offering one reader an exclusive family flight for up to five people in a private capsule, in which they will be served lunch.
The winner and family also win an overnight stay at the exclusive London Marriott Hotel, County Hall.

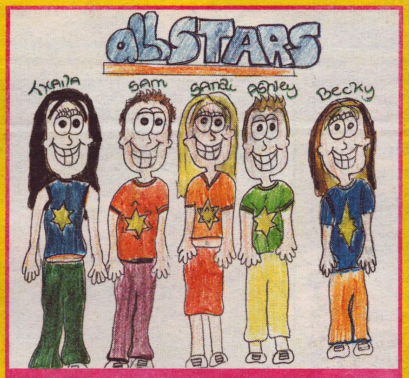
To enter, tell us the name of the tallest building in London

Mark your entry EYE and send it, with your name, age and address, to the competition address above.

LONDON Marriott HOTEL COUNTY HALL
BRITISH AIRWAYS London eye

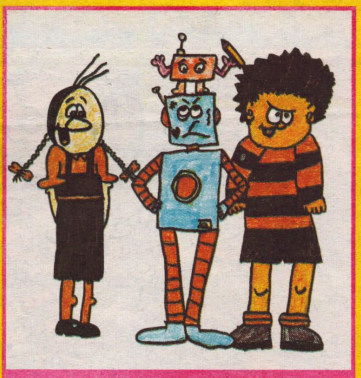
Normal TNL competition rules apply to all Funday Times competitions

Dear f-mail,
My mum's friend was getting married and we were in the church. My four-year-old brother, Calvin, was getting fidgety so mum whispered to him who all the people were at the front of the church. He listened and then thought for a moment before saying, a bit too loudly for my mum's liking: "Why is she marrying Jeff if Jonathan is the best man?" Lots of people started giggling, much to my mum's embarrassment!
Georgia Jones, via e-mail



Sophie Hughes, 12, Biggleswade

Dear f-mail,
When everyone found out about Prince Harry's underage drinking and drug taking it was everywhere – in the news, on TV and in the papers. In my opinion, I think that we should leave the royal family alone and let them get on with Prince Harry's problem. There are a lot of kids doing the same thing but they don't make it to the TV news or front pages. [But I'm not saying that it was right for Prince Harry to do what he did.]
Anna Kumm, Basingstoke



Abby Rose, 11, Sheffield

FUNDAY

SPORT

LESLEY McKENNA

Snowboarder Lesley McKenna is one of Britain's medal contenders in the women's halfpipe at the Winter Olympics in Salt Lake. Funday Sport takes a look at the 27-year-old flying Scotswoman

- Lesley first took to the slopes aged five in her hometown of Aviemore – but as a skier. She was Scotland's disco-dancing champion when she when was 10 and her schoolgirl nickname was The Hobbit – she's a Lord of the Rings fan!
- By 15, Lesley was skiing for Scotland before making the British ski team. In 1994, Lesley won the giant slalom in the British ski championships and then swapped her skis for the board in 1996. Just one year later, she claimed overall first in the British snowboarding championships.
- Lesley's cousin is British skier Alain Baxter. He is also hoping for a medal at Salt Lake, in men's slalom. Their dads founded the British Association of Ski Instructors.
- Last season, Lesley finished third in the World Cup halfpipe – achieving two second places in Berchtesgaden, Germany, and Sapporo, Japan. She also gained top-10 placings in Tignes, France, and Whistler, Canada. This season, Lesley currently lies in seventh in the World Cup standings – with medal rivals Nicola Pederzolli, from Austria, and German Sabine Wehr-Hasler leading the way.
- The bigger the halfpipe, the more Lesley likes it! Her favourite tricks are the 720 air [two full aerial spins] and the McTwist [an inverted 540-degree flip].
- She is the first UK snowboarder to compete in the Winter Olympics. The women's halfpipe event takes place next Sunday at the Park City Mountain Resort. "The person who wins is going to be the one who has the most fun on the day and who is most 'on it'," says Lesley. "I hope that it's a really big and fast pipe." Go for it, Lesley!

SPORT NEWS

Funday picks out the best of this week's sporting action

Today Six Nations, Ireland v Wales, Lansdowne Road

Ireland's slip-up against Scotland in last season's extended Six Nations cost them the grand slam – but Keith Wood's side has come a long way since then. Ireland's combination of team spirit and genuine world-class players should see them triumph against Wales. Watch the game live on Sunday Grandstand on BBC2 from 1.30pm

Saturday 2002 Winter Olympics, Salt Lake

Wrap up warm – the Winter Olympics are upon us! While in this country the winter games don't get the same attention as the summer version, in Scandinavia and Northern Europe these are the ones to watch. See the opening ceremony from the Rice-Eccles Olympic Stadium, in Salt Lake City, America, in Olympic Grandstand from 9am.

HAVE A BALL

As the World Cup frenzy gathers pace, Funday wants to fuel the footy fever by offering some goal-busting goodies.

Mitre is giving away 10 cool football kits, each containing a rucksack, shin pads, goalkeeper gloves and a top Mitre football.

To enter, tell us which country England will face first in the 2002 World Cup finals.

Mark your entry MITRE and send it, with your name, age and address, to the competition address on page 11

mitre

PICTURES: EPA/AFP, ZOOM SPORTS/ALLSPORT, REUTERS/RICK WILKING

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